

Mahopac, NY – U.S. Representative John Hall (NY-19) announced today the awarding of a \$189,525 federal grant for the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department.

That grant will fund the purchase of 37 new air packs that will be used by the department's 85 active firefighters. The new packs will replace old ones that were purchased in the 1980's.

"I am pleased that the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department received this important federal grant to upgrade its breathing packs," said Rep. Hall. "Firefighters provide a critical service to the residents of our communities, and being in the line of danger they should have the best equipment that will help them do their jobs safely and to the fullest."

Mahopac Fire Board Commissioner Edward Scott said, "The department is very pleased to be receiving funding from the federal government. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant program is a great tool that allows us to provide a high level of service without additional burden on the taxpayers."

The money comes from competitive Assistance to Firefighters Grant program administered by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration, for use in operations and safety programs. Without federal funding, the cost of the new equipment would fall on local property taxpayers.